

Abstract

This invention provides methods of enhancing plant growth or yield, comprising exposing soil to hydrogen gas (H₂), and growing plants in the soil. The H₂ gas employed can be generated by electrolysis of water, produced by H₂ evolving microorganisms, and/or produced by legumes. In accordance with the invention, soil can be exposed to H₂ and plants then grown in it, or H₂ can be applied directly to soil in which plants are already growing. In one embodiment, the invention comprises obtaining an aqueous extract from H₂-treated soil, and applying the extract to soil, seeds, and/or plant roots.

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